



# NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR CHRIS BEUTLER



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**FOR RELEASE:**

August 12, 2010

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Laurel Erickson, 441-8035, [lerickson@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:lerickson@lincoln.ne.gov)

## **Wanted: Help to Clean Up Litter at Area Lakes and Streams**

Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful (KLLCB) is recruiting families, groups, organizations, clubs and businesses to participate in the fall 2010 International Coastal Cleanup, picking up litter around area lakes or along streams. Those with boats, canoes, and kayaks are encouraged to register to help reach inaccessible areas of the shoreline.

Each year, volunteers around the world remove trash and debris from beaches, lakes, rivers and other waterways, keeping track of every piece of trash they find. During last year's International Coastal Cleanup, 498,818 volunteers picked up 7.4 million pounds of marine debris in 108 countries and locations around the world and in 45 US states. The 2009 Lancaster County effort involved volunteers cleaning shorelines at five area lakes. Volunteers retrieved materials such as nets, fishing line, and bait containers, in addition to batteries, plywood, propane bottles, tires, beer kegs, lawn chairs, and car parts. Plastic bags, beverage bottles, and cigarette butts were abundant.

If your group or organization is interested in conducting a cleanup of an area lake or stretch of stream, call KLLCB at 441-8035 or email [lerickson@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:lerickson@lincoln.ne.gov). Please indicate the lake in which you are most interested. Cleanups must be completed by October 8. Volunteers are provided trash bags and are asked to complete a data card to record the types and amounts of litter collected. Final tallies will be sent to The Ocean Conservancy to be included in their annual international report.

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